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AppropriationTestimony
Testimony on Bill 6354

Members of the Appropriations Committee,

I had the opportunity last year to serve a Treasurer for the "Shaban for State Rep" Re-election Committee (John T. Shaban - 135th District). I had never done anything like this before and I was a little nervous about taking on the position.

My experience with the State Elections Enforcement Commission and in particular, Paige Adams, my Candidate Services Liaison, was outstanding! Paige answered all of my questions with great patience and took the time to explain the "how, what, where and why's" of campaign finance reporting, rules and regulations. During this process I also had the opportunity to speak with other members of the staff including legal advisors and eCRIS support....each and every single person I spoke to was extremely helpful, respectful and made my job that much easier.

As staffing is already stretched at the SEEC, it worries me that you are considering further reductions - and even splitting up the group. In addition, placing this group under the authority of a gubernatorial appointee - a group that is supposed to be independent and nonpartisan in order to oversee election/campaign finance - would be a conflict of interest.

Please reconsider Bill 6354, safeguard the agency that ensures fair and open elections. Thank you for your consideration,

Jennifer Goetz
Treasurer, Shaban for State Rep 2012